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INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8711  
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RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 6940  
RUEHKS0/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 9296  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 2440  
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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - EU UNIFICATION

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Thursday morning included an Asahi interview with Russian President Medvedev, during which he reportedly expressed his determination to settle Russia's territorial dispute with Japan.

¶2. "France Should Set Course for EU Unity" The liberal Mainichi editorialized (7/3): "Due to Ireland's rejection, the fate of the Lisbon Treaty, which will determine the future of the EU, has been placed in limbo. France, which assumed the EU presidency this month, needs to show the path toward EU unity.... The EU has provided a model of a regional system that copes with problems that cannot be solved by individual nations in a globalizing world. The EU is having a major impact on moves toward regional unification in Asia, Latin America, and Africa.... The EU under the French presidency should study how to achieve ratification and set the course toward unity."

SCHIEFFER